

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A mounting construction for mounting a tail pipe on a rear-end open portion of an exhaust ~~pipe, the pipe,~~ the tail pipe having a diameter larger than a diameter of said rear-end open portion of the exhaust pipe, the mounting construction comprising:

clamping means for clamping a periphery of said rear-end open portion of said exhaust pipe, the clamping means being provided at a front-end open portion of said tail pipe, said clamping means including a clamping member, separate from said tail pipe, accommodated inside said front-end open portion and sandwiching a periphery of said rear-end open portion of said exhaust ~~pipe, pipe;~~

wherein said clamping means has a pair of plate parts disposed at right and left positions of said front-end open portion and a connection member for connecting said plate parts to each other by reducing an interval between said opposed plate parts enough to sandwich a periphery of said rear-end open portion between a pair of said plate parts;

wherein both ends of one of said plate pair part is fixed to an inner peripheral wall of said front-end open portion, and one end of the other of said plate pair part is fixed to said inner peripheral wall of said front-end open portion, and the other end formed as a free end of said other plate part is connected to said one plate part with a connection member; and

wherein said connection member has a nut and a bolt screwed into said nut; and said bolt is inserted into said tail pipe from an open portion formed on a peripheral surface of said tail pipe in penetration therethrough.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) A mounting construction according to claim 2, wherein a concave surface whose configuration conforms to that of a periphery of said rear-end open portion which is inserted between said plate parts is formed on each of said plate parts.

4. (Previously Presented) A mounting construction according to claim 3, wherein an axis of said concave surface formed on said plate parts respectively is tilted with respect to an axis of said tail pipe.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) A mounting construction according to claim 1, wherein said clamping means is realized by a peripheral wall of said front-end open portion being so shaped as to be capable of clamping a periphery of said rear-end open portion of said exhaust pipe.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A mounting construction according to claim 2, wherein one of said plate pair part is formed by bending a portion of a peripheral wall of said front-end open portion; and except one end of the other of said plate pair part, said other plate part is separated from said peripheral wall of said front-end open portion by a cut-out formed on said peripheral wall, with separated other end of said other plate part serving as a free end in connection with said one plate part by said connection member.

9. (Canceled).